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| Notice of Allowability | Application No. | Applicant(s) | |
| | 10/580,143 | SEIDLER ET AL. | |
| | Examiner | Art Unit | |
| | Tran N. Nguyen | 2834 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to _____.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

The drawings, filed on 5/18/06,
are accepted and approved

Tran 4/26/07

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-24 are allowed.

Reason for Allowability

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: ***in combination with other limitations recited in the claims***, the primary reason for the allowance is the including the following: a multi-rotor motor structure having hermetically separated first and second modules, wherein the first module comprises an external-rotor motor having an internal stator that is arranged on a bearing tube; a rotor cup forming part of said external rotor with a permanent-magnet arranged at the open end of the rotor cup, for magnetic interaction with a second permanent-magnet rotor forming part of said second module, the first rotor is separated from that second rotor by a second air gap and forms with it a magnetic coupling, and

the particular inventive features is *a non-ferromagnetic separating element arranged in the second air gap, wherein said separating element hermetically separates the second rotor from the external-rotor motor; said separating element is formed with a support for journaling the second rotor, as well as with a support for the bearing tube for journaling the shaft of the rotor cup; said separating element seals off a rotor-cup-remote end of said bearing tube; and said shaft of said rotor cup is secured against axial removal from said bearing tube.*

Comparing to the prior-art of the record, the most relevant references are JP1-294990, JP02002155883, and JP2000-274399. Each of these prior art discloses a multi-rotor motor with first rotor is separated from second rotor and the two rotors are magnetic coupled. However, none of these prior art either stand-alone or in combination, has taught or suggest the above-mentioned non-ferromagnetic separating element's features such as the separating element hermetically separates the second rotor from the external-rotor motor and is formed with a support for journaling the second rotor, as well as with a support for the bearing tube for journaling the shaft of the rotor cup; and particularly the separating element seals off a rotor-cup-remote end of said bearing tube; and said shaft of said rotor cup is secured against axial removal from said bearing tube.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Communication

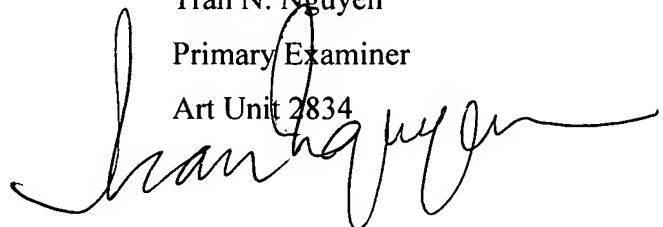
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tran N. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-2030. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:00 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Darren Schuberg can be reached on 571-272-2044. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. (Note: Use this **Central Fax number 571-273-8300 for all official response.**)

Do **not** use the Examiner's RightFax number without informing the Examiner first because, according to the USPTO policy, any document being sent via RightFax is treated as unofficial response and will not be officially dated until it is routed to the Central Fax.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Tran N. Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2834

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tran N. Nguyen', is written over the printed name and title.